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Letter dated 28 July 1998 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 28 July 1998, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61 and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tuluy TANÇ
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

98-22427 (E) 310798

Annex

Letter dated 28 July 1998 from the Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letters dated 2, 9, 15 and 23 July 1998 addressed to you by Greek Cypriot officials at the United Nations, which contain allegations on "violations of the airspace of the Republic" (A/52/973-S/1998/609, A/52/976-S/1998/622, A/52/984-S/1998/651, A/52/988-S/1998/670 and A/52/991-S/1998/683, respectively).

It will be recalled that similar allegations of so-called airspace violations were rejected in toto in our previous communications addressed to you, most recently in my letter dated 7 July 1998 (A/52/977-S/1998/626). Since the present allegations are no different than the preceding ones, they do not merit a detailed reply. I wish to reiterate, however, that flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the State over which the usurper Greek Cypriot regime in the south has no jurisdiction or any right of say whatsoever.

The repeated allegations made by the Greek Cypriot administration are aimed at upholding the myth that it has sovereignty and jurisdiction over the whole island. This posture demonstrates that the Greek Cypriot side is not prepared to accept the present realities in the island (i.e. the existence of two sovereign peoples and their respective states) and engage in a meaningful dialogue on that basis. If there is to be a partnership settlement on the island, a realistic approach is needed on the part of the Greek Cypriots.

It is high time that all concerned parties openly acknowledge that the purely Greek Cypriot administration, whose jurisdiction extends only over the area of the island under Greek Cypriot control, is not and cannot be the government of the Turkish Cypriot people or the island as a whole.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aytuğ PLÜMER
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus